

IN THE CLAIMS

1-30. (Canceled)

31. (New) A method for linking grammars into a hierarchy, comprising the operations of:

establishing various grammars each grammar including various utterances and, for each utterance, the following associated attributes: (1) an indication of whether the utterance is linked to a further grammar, or (2) metadata indicating a type of data specified by the utterance;

where each one of the various grammars further includes, for each utterance that is linked to a further grammar, a link identifying the further grammar for importing responsive to a user issuing that utterance while said further grammar is activated for speech recognition;

where the various grammars include command grammars and information-type grammars, and:

utterances in the command grammars form commands to control a manner of presenting video programs;

utterances in the information-type grammars form keywords pertaining to content of video programs.

32. (New) The method of claim 31, further comprising operations responsive to receiving an utterance in a given information-type grammar while said given grammar is activated for speech recognition, comprising:

if said given grammar lacks a link from the utterance to a further grammar, processing said utterance based on (1) application context of a user-driven system for presenting video programs and (2) type of data specified by the received utterance according to the given grammar.

33. (New) The method of claim 30, the type of data indicated by metadata in information-type grammars is selected from a list that includes:

program name, genre, actor, director, writer, episode, date, popularity,
quality rating, subject matter rating.